Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 10 Feb 2021 until 23:59 on Thursday 11 Feb 2021

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 09 Feb 2021 at 09:47

Confidence: High confidence in the continuation of very cold easterly airstream for the first couple of days however lower certainty about the progression of a milder southwesterly frontal system towards the end of the week.

Headline for Wednesday 10 Feb 2021: Mainly dry with some sunny spells, cold easterly winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 10 Feb 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Clear night	Clear night
Precipitation probability							
20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	<05%	<05%

Forecast for Wednesday 10 Feb 2021

Weather: Dry and clear overnight with a sharp frost and severe wind chill. A mainly dry and bright day and bright day with bits and pieces of cloud around.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80% chance, a few patches of cloud below the summits at times.

Visibility: Very good visibility throughout.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Forecast for Wednesday 10 Feb 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	26/32 NE	24/30 NE	25/31 NE	25/31 NE	20/27 NE	18/24 NE	22/26 NE	23/28 NE	24/28 E
600	17/22 NE	16/21 NE	17/22 NE	16/21 NE	17/24 NE	15/21 NE	13/17 NE	13/17 NE	15/20 E
300	6/18 NE	7/18 NE	7/19 NE	8/19 NE	9/21 NE	8/18 NE	4/14 NE	4/14 NE	3/14 E
Valley	7/19 NE	9/20 NE	11/24 NE	11/22 NE	11/22 NE	10/19 NE	8/17 NE	6/15 NE	5/14 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-8/-18	-8/-18	-8/-18	-8/-18	-7/-16	-7/-15	-8/-17	-7/-16	-7/-16
600	-6/-13	-6/-13	-6/-14	-6/-14	-4/-12	-4/-11	-5/-12	-6/-12	-5/-12
300	-3/-6	-3/-7	-4/-8	-3/-8	-1/-6	-1/-5	-3/-6	-4/-6	-3/-6
Valley	-1/-5	-2/-6	-2/-7	-1/-6	1/-4	1/-3	-1/-5	-2/-5	-2/-5
Freezing Level*	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Severe wind chill expected and frozen ground at all levels, it will be bitterly cold on the Fell tops.

Forecast for Thursday 11 Feb 2021

Weather: A dry day with lots of winter sunshine. Still feeling very cold.

Maximum wind: Southeasterly 15mph with gusts 30-25mph

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% chance of cloud free tops with some good views, a few patches of cloud around the tops from time to time.

Visibility: Very good visibility.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 3 rising to Plus 2 Celsius
At 800m: Around -6 Celsius.
Freezing level: Frozen ground at all levels

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 9 February 2021. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:45. Full report: There is currently a dramatic contrast between the cold, green valleys and the alpine conditions above the snowline which is between 400m and 450m. Below this height many paths were dry although there were patches of ice at all levels, especially on flatter sections or where paths cross drainage lines. Above 450m, snow depth rapidly increases with height with all aspects holding a significant amount of snow; even the summit plateau had an average of between 30cm to 40cm and above 850m the deepest drifts are now over 100cm. The snowpack continues to consolidate although difficulties encountered moving over it varies. Where there is either a weight bearing crust or the snow has been compacted, it is relatively easy (with crampons); however it is both energy sapping and time consuming when either a non – weight bearing crust or soft snow is encountered. Route planning must take this into consideration. Several snow showers were marginally adding to existing accumulations and, with Cumbria under a Met Office yellow warning for snow until midnight on Wednesday, walkers out on Wednesday should expect to encounter more snow and spindrift – especially to the E of the Park. With deep snow obscuring/obliterating landmarks, conditions above the snowline can change quickly and dramatically when snow showers blow through from bright sun to virtual or actual whiteout conditions. Excellent navigational skills are essential as is a safe back-up escape plan to ensure that you do not get caught out in a whiteout somewhere where you do not want to be. Cornices exist above, predominantly, N and E facing slopes. Although they have consolidated with the colder temperatures, some small cracks were briefly observed (when conditions allowed), so please keep well clear of such edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise.

For those venturing above the snowline, regardless of route, an ice axe and crampons are essential; this is owing to the amount of hard snow and ice currently covering the fells. Anyone attempting, or traversing, steep and exposed routes above the snowline, such as Striding or Swirral Edge, must be experienced in winter mountaineering including the ability to competently assess the stability, or otherwise, of the snowpack. Although the snowpack continues to consolidate, patches of unstable snow remain and more could develop with fresh snow/spindrift being blown about and deposited. Goggles are highly recommended in case fresh snow or spindrift is encountered and they also help to increase contrast when looking for steep edges. Please be conservative with your plans and know both your limits and also when to turn back. A pandemic is not the time to be pushing your comfort zone. Temperature: minus 7.3 C, Maximum wind speed 35.5 mph, Wind chill: minus 20.0 C, Average wind speed: 27.0 mph

Issued at: 0947 on Tue 09 Feb 2021

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